NON-OFFICIAL BUSINESS—BILLS.

VI

BILLS TO AMEND THE ANDHRA UNIVERSITY ACT, 1925.

Rao Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" Sir, with your permission, I wish to move, under Standing Order No. 34, that items 1 to 8 on the agenda be adjourned to the next sitting of the Council, next month or whenever it is held. Sir, these items concern the Select Committee reports on the Andhra University Bills. As a number of amendments are on the main question, i.e., as to where to locate the headquarters, so far as we the Andhra Members are concerned, we would like very much to fix it among ourselves rather than to leave it to the Council. If the House will permit this adjournment, we hope to meet as early as possible and have the matter settled among ourselves."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I second it, Sir."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question is that the consideration of items 1 to 8 on the agenda be adjourned to the first non-official day of the next sittings of the Council."

Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED SAHIB :—" I rise, Sir, to oppose this motion made by my hon. Friend Mr. Muniswami Nayudu. The affairs of the Andhra University have been going on in a drifting manner since very long. The Select Committee sat for a considerable number of days and after great endeavour and effort came to certain conclusions, and those conclusions are placed before this House now for consideration. In the interests of the rapid spread of education and the development of University centres and colleges connected therewith, I suggest that the House should not delay the consideration of these Bills. On the other hand, it is quite necessary and essential in the interests of education and also to give rest to the great controversial questions that are agitating the minds of not only the Andhra Members but also the non-Andhra Members, that this question should be settled once for all. I hope, Sir, that the Council will make up its mind not to postpone the matter further but to face the issue and decide it here and now."

* Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" Mr. President, Sir, I am thankful to my hon. Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmad, for the remarks he has made, but, Sir, I would press upon the attention of this House my views and the views of most of the Members who are in charge of the Andhra University Amendment Bills that they are all agreeable to the suggestion of Mr. Muniswami Nayudu. It is only with a view to save the time of this House that we thought that such an adjournment was necessary, in the interests of education which my hon. Friend Mr. Basheer Ahmad emphasised. Under these circumstances, it is but fair that we should be given some breathing time within which we might come to some agreement, co-operate among ourselves and see that this question is decided outside this House."

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Mr. President, Sir, I am as anxious as my hon. Friend who represents the Central Districts Muhammadan constituency, to proceed with these Bills; but several gentlemen representing the Andhra districts who, I believe, have more concern with these Bills than my hon. Friend may ever have, came and requested me that the consideration of this measure should be postponed till they could come to a settlement. I personally thought that it would be most unreasonable on the part of the

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Government to oppose the adjournment when such a request came from Members representing the Andhra districts belonging to all parties in this Council, so that they may arrive at a decision with regard to the question of headquarters. In that sense, I hope the Council will have no objection to the motion of my hon. Friend Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu to postpone the discussion of these Bills to a later date."

Diwan Bahadur P. KESAVA PILLAI :—"This is all about my motion . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Your motion is one of the eight motions on the agenda."

Diwan Bahadur P. KESAVA PILLAI :—" But it is the first. (Laughter.) Mr. President, Sir, a good deal of wire-pulling is going on behind the screens, and everybody is afraid of coming to grips. So, I am agreeable to the postponement of the Bills."

* Rajakumar S. N. DORAI RAJA :—" Sir, last time the Select Committee on the Andhra University Bills came to some tentative arrangement about Anantapur being the headquarters; I think the majority were in favour of it. But after three months, there is disagreement again among the Members. If this thing goes on indefinitely, there will not be any definiteness about the matter. In such matters as the Andhra University Bills delay is not only dangerous but also very unfair. If the Members cannot make up their minds within a period of three months and arrive at a settlement, it may not be possible for them to come to any settlement whatever. I am opposed to postponement. Waiting for some time or long time is one thing, but waiting till eternity is quite another matter."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN :—" Sir, I shall not oppose the motion, that is now before the House, for adjournment of this question. But certainly the Members who are interested in the early settlement of this question must state what they feel on the matter. We have taken a long time over this affair. So far we have found that no agreement has been reached over a comparatively small matter of the headquarters. It is time that our Andhra friends came to an agreement, late as it is. I should like to know from the hon. the Mover of the motion as well as from the other Members of the Andhra districts whether this time at least they will come to a final decision. This House will not, I am sure, be again called on to have the matter postponed and I do not think that another one or two months' time will be asked again for coming to a decision. It is high time that we Members other than those from the Andhra districts, realized that we also have a responsibility in the matter. If this thing is prolonged unduly, the work of the Council will also suffer. In view of the fact that we have also to consider the other Bill that will come before the House, viz., the Annamalai University Bill, it is advisable on the part of the authors of these Bills to expedite the matter and see that other things do not suffer on account of the Andhra University Bills."

Mr. K. UPPI SAHIB :—" I move that the question be now put."

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—" I second it, Sir."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question is that the question be now put."

The closure motion was put to the House and carried.

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* The hon the PRESIDENT :—" I now put the question to the vote of the House. The question is that items 1 to 8 on the agenda be postponed to the first non-official day of the next sitting of the Council."

The motion was put to the House and carried.

VII

A BILL TO AMEND THE MADRAS DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES ACT, THE MADRAS LOCAL BOARDS ACT AND THE MADRAS GENERAL CLAUSES ACT.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Mr. President, Sir, with reference to the motion brought by me at the last meeting that a Select Committee be appointed, I request I may be allowed to withdraw that motion as it was then objected to on the ground that the Committee was not comprehensive and did not include several Members of this Council, especially District Board Presidents whose names ought to have been there. I therefore beg to withdraw that motion."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Has the hon. Member the leave of the House to withdraw the motion ? (After a pause). The motion is, by leave withdrawn.

" The hon. Member will now move his motion."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I now move, Sir, that the Select Committee be allowed to exceed the number 15 which is the maximum number allowed by the rules. The reason is that, as already stated, it is necessary in the case of a Bill which is of far-reaching consequences, that there should be a larger representation."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question is that the Members of the Select Committee may exceed 15 in number "

The motion was put to the House and carried.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I now beg to move, Sir, that the Bill may be referred to a Select Committee composed of the following Members :—

(1) The hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government.
(2) ,, Law Member.
(3) ,, Advocate-General.
(4) Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan.
(5) ,, L. C. Guruswami.
(6) Mr. N. Siva Raj.
(7) Mr. A. B. Shetty.
(8) Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur.
(9) Mr. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu.
(10) Mr. T. M. Moidoo Sahib.
(11) Mr. P. J. Gnanavaram Pillai.
(12) Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur.
(13) Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar.
(14) Rao Bahadur O. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar.
(15) Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai.
(16) Mr. K. R. Karant.
(17) Mr. G. R. Premayya
(18) Mr. P. Anjaneyulu
(19) Khan Bahadur S. K. Abdul Razack Sahib Bahadur.